

Message Text

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SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

1. SUMMARY. ISRAELI AIR ATTACK ON SOUTH LEBANON EXTENSIVELY BANNERED. SEVERAL PAPERS COMMENTED ON ATTACK EDITORIALY CALLING IT RESULT OF U S-ISRAELI STATEMENT DESCRIBING COMMANDOS AS MERCENARIES AND CONDEMNING TERRORIST ATTACKS. OTHER PAPERS ANALYZED RESULT OF PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO AREA CAPITALS DESCRIBING IT AS "GREAT PERSONAL SUCCESS." END SUMMARY.

2. IN EDITORIAL ON PRESIDENT'S VISIT, LEADING INDEPENDENT AN NAHAR COMMENTED: "IF ARABS COLLECT ALL JOINT STATEMENTS ISSUED DURING NIXON'S TRIP...THEY WILL SEE ONE U S HAND IS OFFERED TO ARABS AND ANOTHER HAND TO ISRAEL. HOWEVER, ISRAEL WILL FIND GREAT DEAL CLEARLY IN ITS FAVOR REGARDING COMMANDOS. FOR U S PRESIDENT, RESULTS ARE MORE THAN GOOD, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF USING THESE RESULTS IN HIS DOMESTIC BATTLE. HE WAS ABLE TO RETURN FROM MIDEAST AFTER SATISFYING FIVE RULERS WHO ARE NOT EASY TO PLEASE SIMULTANEOUSLY, AND ON SAME SUBJECT."

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3. PRO-LIBYA AS SAFIR: "NIXON RETURNED TO WASHINGTON WITH BIG U S GAINS TO USE IN AVERTING IMPEACHMENT...AND COMPLETING HIS TERM. HIS SUCCESS WAS IN GAINING FRIENDSHIP OF ARAB GOVTS WITHOUT AFFECTING U S-ISRAELI RELATIONS... BUT ISRAEL SHARED THESE GAINS WITH HIM. JOINT U S-ISRAELI STATEMENT CONTAINED U S GUARANTEE FOR ISRAEL'S SECURITY AND BORDERS... WHILE ARABS OBTAINED ONLY AID PROMISES REQUIRING MANY YEARS TO MATERIALIZE.

4. PRO-COMMANDO AL MUHARRIR: "THIS TOUR WAS SUCCESSFUL FROM ALL ANGLES, EXCLUDING THOSE WHICH CONCERN US, NAMELY ARAB AND PALESTINIAN ANGLES. FOR NIXON PERSONALLY, THIS TOUR WAS ONE OF HIS MOST SUCCESSFUL... HE HAS NOW RETURNED TO EXPLOIT THIS SUCCESS DOMESTICALLY... THROUGHOUT PERIOD NIXON SPENT IN AREA, HE DID NOT REFER TO PALESTINE PROBLEM... IF HE IMAGINES THAT THROUGH AID AND SWEET WORDS HE HAS RESTORED U S INFLUENCE TO AREA AND ENTERED HEARTS OF ITS POEPL, HE IS DECEIVING NONE BUT HIMSELF.

5. PRO-IRAQ BEIRUT: "NIXON HAD HARDLY LEFT AREA WHEN US-MADE ISRAELI PLANES LAUNCHED LARGE-SCALE ATTACKS AT COMMANDO BASES IN SOUTH LEBANON... PRESIDENT NIXON'S OPINION, WHICH IS IDENTICAL WITH ISRAELI OPINION, IS THAT COMMANDO PHONEMENON IS ILLEGITIMATE AND THAT COMMANDOS CONSTITUTE OBSTACLE IN WAY OF U S -ISREALI SETTLEMENT...

6. PRO-SYRIA ASH SHARQ: "BEFORE PRESIDENT NIXON'S PLANE LEFT ARAB AREA, ISRAELI PLANES CARRIED OUT SEVERAL SAVAGE AIR ATTACKS AGAINST DIFFERENT PARTS OF LEBANON... ISRAELI INFORMATION MINISTER SAID THESE ATTACKS WERE DELAYED BECAUSE OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S PRESENCE IN AREA. THIS MEANS NIXON CAN PREVENT ISRAELI FORCES FROM CARRYING OUT THEIR AGGRESSIONS IF HE WANTS..."

7. COMMUNIST AN NIDA: "ISRAEL STARTED IMMEDIATELY YESTERDAY IMPLEMENTING ARTICLES OF U S -ISRAELI STATEMENT WITH AGGRESSION LAUNCHED ON BORDER VILLAGES IN SOUTH LEBANON. THE ISRAELIS SAID THEY 'FAVORED' NIXON AND DID NOT COMMIT AGGRESSION DURING HIS VISIT AND THAT NIXON 'FAVORED' THEM BY GIVING THEM 'GREEN LIGHT' TO CONTINUE UNCLASSIFIED

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ATTACKS AGAINST 'MERCENARIES' IN LEBANON. THIS WAS EXPECTED BUT WHAT BECAME OF MESSAGE OF 'REASSURANCE'

WHICH NIXON SENT, AND HIS INTEREST IN MAINTAINING INTEGRITY OF LEBANESE TERRITORY?"

8. INDEPENDENT L'ORIENT-LE JOUR: "WE SHOULD NOT RELY TOO MUCH ON MR. NIXON AND HIS WRITTEN GUARANTEES, BECAUSE

IT IS MR NIXON WHO, WHILE CONDEMNING VIOLENCE, GAVE THE GREEN LIGHT TO SUCH VIOLENCE."

9. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY STAR: "THE ISRAELIS HARANGUED PRESIDENT NIXON FOR 25 HOURS ABOUT THEIR PEACE-LOVING STATE IN A SEA OF ARAB HOSTILITY AND ONE HOUR AFTER HE LEFT THE REGION THEY DROPPED THEIR MASK AND ATTACKED LEBANON ONECE MORE... NIXON, WHO IS BOUND TO HEAR OF THE ATTACK, WILL HAVE TO CONCLUDE FOR HIMSELF WHETHER THE ISRAELIS ARE RESPECTFUL, VENGEFUL, DECEITFUL OR HYPOCRITICAL..... THE ONLY WAY TO STOP COMMANDO RAIDS IS TO MEET LEGITIMATE PALESTINIAN DEMANDS.
GODLEY

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